

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 KABUL 05404 040844Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----016692 040853Z /23

O 040808Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY KABUL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8883
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD NIACT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI NIACT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN NIACT IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T KABUL 5404
E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OVIP, AF
SUBJECT: UNDER SECRETARY NEWSOM'S TRIP

EXDIS

REF: KABUL 5402

1. HAVE GOOD NEWS TO REPORT. THE FOURTH OF JULY BROUGHT US GOODIES. EARLY THIS MORNING WE WERE INFORMED THAT THE AFGHAN GOVERNMENT WAS AGREEABLE TO UNDER SECRETARY NEWSOM BEING TRANSPORTED BY EMBASSY TEHRAN'S ATTACHE AIRCRAFT AND THAT I HAD A MEETING AT 1030 HRS WITH DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER ANF FOREIGN MINISTER AMIN.

2. WHEN I SAW AMIN, HE SAID HE HAD THE FOLLOWING INFO TO SHARE WITH ME:

--CONFIRMATION THAT NEWSOM'S ARRIVAL BY THE SPECIAL BEEHCRAFT WAS ACCEPTABLE.

--THAT THE FOREIGN MINISTRY WOULD LIKE TO HOST A LUNCHEON FOR HIM IN HIS HONOR AFTER HIS ARRIVAL.

--AND THAT BOTH "PRESIDENT" TARAHI AND HE, AMIN, WOULD BE PLEASED TO RECEIVE MR. NEWSOM IN SEPARATE APPOINTMENTS. THE TIMES FOR THESE,
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HE SAID, SHOULD BE WORKED OUR WITH THE PROTOCOL OFFICE. AS FOR OTHER APPOINTMENTS, (READ HERE THE RECENTLY PURGED FIRST DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER BABRAK KARMAL) THERE WOULD NOT BE ENOUGH TIME FOR ANY.

3. AMIN SAID THAT WERE AMBASSADOR DESIGNATE DUBS TO ARRIVE SEVERAL DAYS AHEAD OF MR. NEWSOM, HIS MINISTRY WOULD MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO EXPEDITE THE PRESENTATION OF CREDENTIALS SO HE COULD PARTICIPATE IN

MR. NEWSON'S VISIT.

4. COMMENT: AFTER THE FRUSTRATIONS OF THE LAST THREE DAYS, WE HERE
ARE MUCH RELIEVED THAT ARRANGEMENTS HAVE FINALLY JELLED FOR THE VISIT

.
ALTHOUGH THE UNDER SECRETARY'S VISIT WILL BE SHORT, I THINK HE WILL
FIND TARAHI AND AMIN INTERESTING, AND HIS SCENIC OVERLAND TRIP TO
PESHAWAR ENJOYABLE. THE UNDER SECRETARY SHOULD KNOW THAT, ALTHOUGH
KABUL'S 6,000-FOOT ALTITUDE USUALLY GIVE US MODERATE SUMMER
TEMPERATURES, THE DAYS RECENTLY HAVE BEEN UNSEASONABLY HOT (MAX 100
MIN 70).

5. SUGGESTION ON VISAS: WE RECOMMEND THAT MR. NEWSOM AND PARTY PLAN
TO GET THEIR VISAS AT KABUL AIRPORT. THIS IS A SIMPLE PROCEDURE
AND HAS THE ADVANTAGE TOO THAT AIRPORT-ISSUED VISAS OBVIATE THE NEED
OF OUR GETTING THE PARTY EXIT VISAS.
AMSTUTZ

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NNN

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